



ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAYS

A PPT by Luis Salazar

What is an argument?

- An argument is an idea that carries an opinion
- It is not just an exposition of an idea
- It proposes a position regarding a topic
- Further evidence can support its position
- Also, evidence can attack its opposition

For example:

▫ It is a melancholy object to those who walk through this great town or travel in the country, when they see the streets, the roads, and cabin doors, crowded with beggars of the female sex, followed by three, four, or six children, all in rags and importuning every passenger for an alms. These mothers, instead of being able to work for their honest livelihood, are forced to employ all their time in strolling to beg sustenance for their helpless infants: who as they grow up either turn thieves for want of work, or leave their dear native country to fight for the Pretender in Spain, or sell themselves to the Barbadoes.

Argumentative essays:

- A macrostructure composed of a chain of arguments
- It has the same elements of a regular essay, though each section is organized in particular ways
- See your course reader for detailed reference of each section



A different style

- <http://depts.washington.edu/owrc/Handouts/Argumentative%20Paper%20Format.pdf>

Audience Analysis:

- This refers to having a better understanding of your possible readers
- You have detailed steps for this in the course reader



Another way

- <http://speakingcenter.uncg.edu/resources/tipsheets/connectingtoaudience/stepsofaudienceanalysis.pdf>